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Oakland County Senators Welcome Governor's Mock Check Presentation

Cassis, Bishop Declare Victory for County Commuters

LANSING— Although they were not included in Gov. Jennifer Granholm's publicity tour to present mock checks to local governments for restored road project funding, State Sens. Nancy Cassis (R-Novi) and Mike Bishop (R-Rochester) are gratified that the governor is delivering state dollars long set aside for Oakland County road projects and approved by the state legislature.

Granholm is expected to hold a press conference on Thursday to present fake checks and pose for photo ops with local government officials that will see their delayed road projects restored. Cassis and Bishop fought hard to restore money that Granholm vetoed and was once going to shift to her proclaimed "preserve first" scheme.

"It is heartening that after vetoing and trying to divert this money, our governor, under pressure by the legislators and citizens of Oakland County, has had a turn around and is embracing the go-ahead on these vital projects," Cassis said.

"At the end of the day, after the press lights are off and the publicity tour bus rolls out of town, it is the commuters who travel these roads on a daily basis who will reap the real reward," said Bishop. "While the presentation of a phony check is nice, the actual funding of these projects is a victory for those who put substance before style."

These road projects directly affect the health, safety, and economic vitality of the Oakland community. Some had money already donated by private donors and local taxpayers, and all were previously set in place by the Michigan Department of Transportation's Five Year Road and Bridge Plan.

"The reinstatement of crucial funding for county road projects is truly a win for Oakland County commuters," Cassis said. "Hopefully, we will be back next year with funding for the Wixom Road interchange and other delayed projects that were not restored."

Sens. Cassis and Bishop will attend the press conference to show their support for the county road projects.

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